

civic engagement through 366 projects statewide. This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the organization implementing the Serve America Act, will commit over \$75 million to support California communities through national service initiatives.

The Serve America Act has empowered individuals, nonprofits, state governments, and local communities to address our nation's most pressing challenges through service. The significant progress already made since the passing of this legislation, and the attitude of selflessness that it has promoted make it entirely fitting that we take this time to honor and commemorate the first anniversary of the Serve America Act. Thanks to the leadership of the President, the bipartisan support of Congress, new authorities under the Serve America Act, historic funding for programs, and a growing consensus that service is a solution, we stand at the dawn of a new era of service in America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1276.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
THE 100TH BATTALION, 442ND
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM
AND THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave individuals who served in the Military Intelligence Service and the Army's 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT)—the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. military. These patriotic Americans, many of whom came from Placer County, California, served at a time when many of their families were interned in camps far from their homes.

I am proud that the people of Placer County have partnered with the Japanese American Citizens League to create a permanent memorial commemorating the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the U.S. military during World War II. The memorial includes a 36-foot compass laid in concrete to symbolize the journey of the 442nd RCT located on Go For Broke Road, which is named in honor of the unit's motto.

As our community moves into the second phase of this project, I congratulate everyone involved and thank them for their ongoing efforts to honor those individuals who risked and sacrificed so much in defense of our great Nation and the ideals for which we stand.

HONORING MR. PURVIS YOUNG

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Mr. Purvis Young, one of South Florida's most storied artists. He transformed a troubled life with brush strokes, painting the joys and sorrows of his people on

objects discarded in his Overtown neighborhood. Because of his great talent, he received international recognition.

Born February 2, 1943 in Miami's Liberty City to Vera Mae Wright, Mr. Young learned the art of drawing as a young boy watching his maternal Uncle Irving who was a figurative artist. He picked up his first paintbrush at the age of 20. Mr. Young attended school up to the 8th grade during which time he swam at Dixie Park (now called Gibson Park) and he was invited to paint a mural on the Overtown Library, adjacent to the pool. With the guidance of two of Miami-Dade Public Library System's finest, Barbara Young (Librarian Curator of the Permanent Collection, Art Services and Exhibitions Programs) and Margarita Cano (Administrator of Community Relations), Mr. Young buried himself amongst the books, hungry for knowledge that could explain the world to him.

For the first 50 years of his life, Mr. Young remained within the county lines of Miami. It was not until his 6th decade that he traveled to other states and cities and learned that he was famous, a fact he missed while art dealers encouraged him to seclude himself in his studio. A self-taught artist, Mr. Young enjoyed telling the story of how he turned his life around in the mid-1960s by painting vibrant murals and conceptualizing mixed-media expressionist works. He said he found his calling after serving a prison term for breaking and entering when an angel told him, "This is not your life."

Mr. Young completed most of his work at night and created exquisite, thoughtful art from garbage he plucked off the streets of Overtown. Environmentally conscious and unwilling to contribute to further deforestation, Mr. Young's "canvases" were made of recycled products including found wood, discarded library books, old political posters, used furniture and various surplus items from construction sites. He painted with latex, acrylic, enamel, and combinations of new paint blended with old paint that he had for 25 years or more. His work was famous for intensely colored urban landscapes, drawings and mixed-media constructions.

Today, Mr. Young's work is in more than 60 public collections and numerous private ones—in 2006 alone he had six exhibitions. His work hangs in The Bass Museum of Art (Miami); American Folk Art Museum (New York); The Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.); High Museum of Art (Atlanta); Lowe Art Museum (University of Miami); Museum of Fine Arts (Houston); New Orleans Museum of Art; Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Smithsonian American Art Museum among many. On December 24, 2006, the Sun-Sentinel's Emma Trelles named the Boca Raton Museum of Art's Purvis Young exhibition #1 in the art category for the year in South Florida. Several of his works are part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

"Purvis was one of the great geniuses of American art, a remarkable figure," said Jacquelyn Serwer, chief curator of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, which breaks ground in 2012. "He wasn't particularly nurtured, yet was driven to do this work. He was just one of those people who was born with this extraordinary vision and stayed true to it, producing work that had a kind of mythical quality to it."

Mr. Young is survived by his long-time companion, Eddie Mae Lovest, four daughters, Kenyatta, Kentranice, Taketha and Elisha, and 13 grandchildren. In addition, he is survived by two sisters, Betty Rodriguez and Shirley Byrd, and a brother, Irvin Byrd.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all the members of this esteemed legislative body to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Dr. Purvis Young. I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Young for his invaluable services and tireless dedication to the South Florida arts community. Mr. Young's life was a triumph and he will be missed by all who knew him. I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to him before the United States House of Representatives.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS
OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1963, the "Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009," which will finally give our brave men and women in uniform the benefits they deserve and provide their families and caregivers with the support that they need. Too many of our veterans return home—many of them wounded or disabled—after risking their lives on our behalf and do not receive adequate health care or benefits. Too many families fall into debt as they assume the responsibility of caring for a loved one who has returned from Iraq or Afghanistan. This bill will right these injustices.

I thank Chairman FILNER for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Senator AKAKA, for working hard to ensure that our Nation's dedication to its veterans matches their selfless devotion to this country.

Mr. Speaker, representing a district that is home to over 24,000 veterans and the VA Medical Center of Long Beach, I understand the work that must be done to uphold our Nation's obligation to its veterans. Unfortunately, for years the health care services provided for our Nation's veterans have been inadequate. Veterans' families have been especially overburdened by this failure. When wounded or disabled veterans return home from overseas, family members often become their primary caregivers. However willing these individuals may be to care for their loved one, the truth is that family members often lack the resources or skills needed to provide the care that our veterans deserve. S. 1963 will provide training and financial assistance to family caregivers, so that veterans' families can afford to provide them with quality care.

In addition, S. 1963 will improve health care for female veterans. For too long, female veterans have lacked access to comprehensive health care. We cannot stand for this kind of discrimination. S. 1963 will break down this barrier and give female veterans access to health professionals specializing in the specific health care needs of women. Among many other things, the bill will provide counseling and care to female veterans suffering from sexual trauma.

This bill will also provide an array of new health services for veterans, ensuring that every veteran has access to the care that he or she deserves. The bill will expand care for veterans in rural areas, because where veterans live should never determine the quality of care that they receive. It will improve mental health support for veterans, because we must respond to traumatic experiences that our men and women in uniform are braving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Finally, this legislation will help homeless veterans find housing, because it is simply unacceptable for our veterans to risk their lives for our country and return home to live on the streets.

Mr. Speaker, our men and women in uniform have assumed the responsibility of protecting us and the values that we cherish as American citizens; we, then, have a responsibility to them. We must provide them with support they need to live healthy and financially stable lives upon returning home. This bill will do just that. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 1963.

**HONORING THE STATE CHAMPION
BOLIVAR CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM**

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating the Bolivar Central High School boy's basketball team for winning the 2010 Class AA State Championship.

Less than a year removed from the state semifinals, Bolivar Central High School faced off against their league rivals at Middle Tennessee State University on March 20, 2010 for the State championship. After hundreds of hours of practice and hard work the Tigers were rewarded as they secured the school's third Class AA state championship in a 72–62 win over Liberty.

This recognition reflects a dedication to practice, their teammates and their unrelenting commitment to excellence. The team building skills acquired by working together through the highs and lows of the season will benefit these young men for a lifetime of success.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking the parents, Coach Rick Rudesill, faculty of Bolivar Central High School and again congratulating the members of the 2010 State Championship team. I am sure this is not the last we will hear from this talented group of young men.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of St. Mary's Academy in Grass Valley, California. Since its first day, St. Mary's has provided outstanding educational opportunities to the children of Nevada County.

The Academy was founded in 1859 by Father Thomas J. Dalton, Pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Grass Valley as a school for the growing Nevada County area. The Academy has served as an orphanage, a finishing school for girls, a high school, and a grade school. Today the school offers kindergarten through eighth grade education.

As our community gathers to celebrate this auspicious occasion, I am proud to recognize 150 years of service and excellence and thank those who have worked to keep the Academy open and thriving.

**COMMEMORATING 40TH
ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY**

SPEECH OF

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam Speaker, it would be easy to get depressed on Earth Day, when the challenges to saving the world just seem to keep growing.

Still, right in Santa Fe's backyard, people are making strides simple and ambitious to live lighter on the Earth.

That is what the Santa Fe New Mexican said today on Earth Day.

And that is where we are making a difference—with efforts large and small.

We have groups like Santa Fe Youthworks—building homes that use less energy and empowering at risk students.

Families are caulking their home and using more energy efficient light bulbs.

Too often we miss signs of progress amidst the great work that remains to be done like taking on climate change, diminishing energy resources, and polluted lands and water. But every day each of us can, and must, make a difference toward a cleaner world.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF REV. BEN-
JAMIN LAWSON HOOKS**

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1271 and to mourn the loss of the former president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Mr. Benjamin L. Hooks.

Mr. Hooks led the NAACP at a time when civil rights legislation began to have its greatest impact. The vote had been secured, equal facilities were legally required and the right to an equal education had finally been confirmed through court action.

Benjamin Hooks had already seen the benefits of the fight for civil rights that he helped lead. Before taking over the NAACP, Hooks was President Nixon's choice to head the Federal Communication Commission as that body's first Black commissioner.

So, when he took over at the NAACP, many believed the fight was over and the impact of the NAACP had declined.

Benjamin Hooks knew that the fight would never end, as long as injustice remained in this world. When he left the NAACP in 1992, the membership who believed along with him, fought along with him, and who join me in mourning his loss, had grown by hundreds of thousands of Americans.

His service to his country and to the NAACP was not the birth of his activism. Even as a young man, Benjamin Hooks fought for equality.

Hooks served in the Army during World War II, guarding prisoners of war. In his hometown of Memphis, these prisoners would have more rights than he did. So Hooks began fighting for those whose rights had been left behind.

For 16 years, he practiced law in Memphis, became a minister and served as the first African American criminal court judge in the state of Tennessee.

During his tenure at the FCC, Hooks pushed for more minority leadership of media outlets. Minority employment in broadcasting grew from 3 percent to 15 percent during his tenure, according to the Associated Press.

After retiring from the NAACP, Hooks stressed that wealthy and middle-class African Americans should give time and resources to those who are less fortunate. He served as pastor of Middle Baptist Church and president of the National Civil Rights Museum, both in Memphis. He also taught at the University of Memphis.

His lifetime work was so critical to the Civil Rights movement that in 2007, Hooks received the nation's highest honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, from President George W. Bush.

So today, it is with a heavy heart that I mourn the loss of an American leader and legend, Mr. Benjamin Hooks.

**COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS,
ACCOUNTABILITY, AND
DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2009**

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the passage of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestment Act.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, if allowed on its present course, is well on its way to obtaining nuclear capability. Experts say it could be in the possession of a nuclear weapon in less than a year.

Since 1995, several U.S. regulations have been enacted to pressure Iran's economy, curtail its nuclear advancement and curb the government's support for jihadist militant groups. They have not been adhered to; no firms have yet been sanctioned.

This legislation will pressure persons violating Iran Sanction acts and other accomplices of the National Guard in pursuing uranium enrichment and oppressing religious and human rights.

Nuclear terrorism is one of the greatest threats to American security. Safeguarding nuclear materials from terrorists is absolutely critical to international peace and stability.

This legislation provides the much needed teeth and Presidential authority necessary to deter this regime's nuclear intentions. Timing